SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, as announced—it is part of the total budget announcement—the total money is Rs. 200 crore at the present moment. No amount has been expended from that fund. Yes, Sir, it was announced during the Budget itself that the Government has decided to move away from the line of credit system really to a method in which it is better for India to start giving direct grants in consultation with the MEA; and we have already initiated action in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Exemption to donation from tax in Gujarat

*450. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from Government of Gujarat to extend the time-limit of exemption under 80(G) of the Income-tax Act for receipt and utilisation of donation made to the NGO's and charitable trusts for relief and rehabilitation to earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been considered by Government: and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes sir.

(b) and (c) The representation is under consideration.

Facilities provided to Haj Pilgrims

†* 451. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of a CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of concessions and facilities being provided to Haj Pilgrims travelling by plane;

(b) the number of Haj Pilgrims who availed this facility during this year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.